

**10/587521**

**AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 27 JUL 2006**

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q95708

Franca LEO

Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/IT2004/000018

Confirmation No.: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Filed: July 27, 2006

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: PROCESS FOR REDUCING THE LEVEL OF HARMFUL SUBSTANCES IN  
TOBACCO LEAVES

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

A copy of an International Search Report in a counterpart application is submitted herewith. The USPTO should receive copies of the references cited in the International Search Report from the International Bureau. Applicant will furnish any missing references upon request.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
National Stage of PCT/JP2004/000018  
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Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents (International Search Report for PCT/IT2004/000018 dated September 27, 2004).

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Registration No. 32,778

Date: July 27, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO  <b><u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u></b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	Not yet assigned
				Confirmation Number	Not yet assigned
				Filing Date	July 27, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Franca LEO
				Art Unit	Not yet assigned
				Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	Q95708
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 3, 316,919	A	05-02-1967	Brian Fordyce WILLIAM et al..
		US 5, 040,550	A	08-20-1991	John ARGYROPOULOS
		US 5,243,999	A	09-14-1993	Leigh A. B. SMITH
		US 5,131,415	A	07-21-1992	Julio A. MUNOZ et al.
		US 5,301,694	A	04-12-1994	Wynn R. RAYMOND et al.
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> <i>(if known)</i>			

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.